



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 20 January 2004

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

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Daily Overview

- CNN reports an intoxicated pilot flew around Philadelphia for three hours, including into the airspace of Philadelphia International Airport, without clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration. (See item [14](#))
- The Washington Post reports Congressional lawmakers have asked five of the nation's largest drugmakers to explain what they are doing to stop counterfeit drugs from entering the marketplace. (See item [24](#))
- ZDNet reports that critical security vulnerabilities in HP's Tru64 Unix operating system were patched on Friday, January 16, after it was discovered that implementations of IPsec and SSH programs, which carry VPN and secure system command traffic, were vulnerable to attackers. (See item [29](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *January 17, Cape Cod Times (MA)* — Nuclear plant's sirens malfunction. On Wednesday, January 14, more than 78 percent of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station's 112 emergency sirens malfunctioned during routine tests, including 53 amplifiers that did not work at all when temperatures dropped below 8 degrees. Backup plans to notify the public in case of an emergency include street-to-street notification by public safety personnel and news alerts. On Friday, January 16, technical crews from Federal Signal Corp., the Illinois-based manufacturing vendor of the Pilgrim sirens, were still trying to determine why the

systems failed. David Tarantino, a spokesperson for plant owner Entergy, said the problems were likely caused by technological malfunction and not the weather. According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which enforces plant safety and security, plant owners must install sirens across communities within 10 miles of plants to alert residents of emergency. The Pilgrim plant occupies a 1,600-acre site in historic Plymouth, MA, in Plymouth County.

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_krt.htm?SMDOCID=knightridder_2004_01_17_krtbn_0000-0030-CA-NUKE-P_LANT&SMContentSet=0

2. *January 16, Reuters* — **Oil prices jump on U.S. high temperatures. Oil prices jumped 5 percent on Friday, January 16, as subzero temperatures in the U.S. Northeast threatened to strain already low U.S. fuel stocks. Prices found renewed strength on worries that bitter cold in the U.S. Northeast, a ravenous consumer of heating oil, will deplete U.S. inventories which are already at record low levels, though the freeze is expected to ease soon.** Heating energy demand in the region will average near-record highs with the region in the icy grips of an Arctic blast, according to weather forecaster Meteorlogix. The International Energy Agency (IEA) on Friday said inventories would rebuild sharply in the second quarter when demand eases after the northern hemisphere's winter. In its monthly Oil Market Report, the IEA said OPEC crude production rose further above quota limits in December to stand 4.6 million barrels per day above projected demand for the cartel's crude in the second quarter. The IEA data may strengthen the case for the oil cartel to cut production at its February 10 meeting despite high prices. Some ministers fear this year's second quarter surplus will be much larger than normal, causing a price crash.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A23270-2004Jan_16.html

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Chemical Sector

3. *January 16, China Daily* — **Chinese gas victims recover, 12 still in hospital. Most of the 134 victims of a chlorine gas leak accident in Northeast China on Thursday, January 14, have recovered, local officials said yesterday.** About a dozen remain hospitalized, however. The emergency aid centre in Qiqihar city of Heilongjiang Province received a series of telephone calls for help at about 6 p.m. on Thursday, January 15. Residents in nearby Gaotou Village said they felt difficulty breathing, and suspected they had inhaled chemical gas. Some 130 villagers were rushed to hospital for observation and treatment. Examinations showed they were harmed by chlorine -- a highly irritating, greenish-yellow gas that can cause dizziness, vomiting, coughing and breathing difficulties. The cause of the incident were seven containers of liquefied chlorine gas that were discarded by someone in a pit near the village. A local health official said the containers might have come from some local chemical plant or factory that uses chlorine for bleaching, such as a paper mill. "An investigation shows the containers probably were sold by some factories to a private owner as waste material for recycling," an official told China Daily. The person might have accidentally opened the containers that still contained remnants of liquefied chlorine, he said. **Accidents involving chlorine gas have been occurring frequently across the country for the past several years.**

Source: http://www1.chinadaily.com.cn/en/doc/2004-01/16/content_299661.htm

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

4. *January 16, Federal Computer Week* — **More money sought for anti-crime network . The Bush administration says it will ask for a substantial increase -- 12.7 percent -- in the budget to pay for new efforts to stop terrorist financing and other financial crimes. The money would go to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), a Department of Treasury bureau for monitoring and cutting off money used in criminal and terrorist activities.** One among several programs that could get more money is FinCEN Gateway, an information system set up to help federal, state and local law enforcement officials gain access to records filed under the Bank Secrecy Act. A portion of the money would help pay for a new Web-based data retrieval system and analytical tools to investigate suspected money laundering, Treasury officials said Friday, January 16. The proposed increase will be included in the president's 2005 budget request.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0112/web-treasury-01-16-04.asp>

5. *January 15, KUSA TV (CO)* — **New Website aims to stop identity theft. Colorado Attorney General Ken Salazar unveiled a new Website on Thursday, January 15, that will help Coloradans who have become victims of identity theft. The site offers advice on what to do if you've had your identity stolen and tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.** "Our first goal is to make it tough for criminals to steal a person's identity in the first place by getting specific prevention tips to citizens. Despite the best protection, if a person's identity is stolen, our goal is to quickly and aggressively act on behalf of the victim. Quick action and accurate information are two of our best weapons," said Denver District Attorney Bill Ritter. The Federal Trade Commission says Colorado ranked 11th nationally in the number of identity thefts in 2002.

Source: <http://www.9news.com/storyfull.aspx?storyid=23186>

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Transportation Sector

6. *January 19, CNN* — **Delta bomb hoax probe: Man held.** A German teenager has been held for questioning in the Republic of Ireland in connection with a hoax bomb threat on a trans-Atlantic passenger jet, police said. **The Delta Air Lines jet, carrying 147 passengers, had been flying to Atlanta, GA, from Frankfurt, Germany, Sunday, January 18, when a note was found in one of the Boeing 767's toilets saying a bomb was onboard.** The aircraft, Delta Flight 27, was diverted to Shannon Airport in western Ireland where **it was searched by police and bomb disposal experts before it was declared safe.** All of the passengers were put

up overnight in hotels after police questioned, fingerprinted and took handwriting samples, police said. The flight, renumbered 9609, departed Shannon at 9:48 a.m. EST.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/europe/01/18/plane.diverted.ap/index.html>

7. *January 18, Associated Press* — **No survivors found in Lake Erie crash.** A single-engine plane carrying at least nine people crashed Saturday, January 17, in snowy weather shortly after taking off from a Canadian island in Lake Erie. The airline's president said there did not appear to be any survivors. **The pilot radioed a frantic call for help shortly after taking off about 5 p.m., but controllers then lost contact with the plane, said U.S. Coast Guard LTjg Christopher Pasciuto.** A helicopter found the wreckage of the Georgian Express plane at about 7:30 p.m. Saturday about a mile west of Ontario's Pelee Island, Pasciuto said. It was nose-down in the water with ice around it, airline president Paul Mulrooney said. Helicopters were using searchlights to look for survivors in the water, U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Mark Freeman said.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/americas/01/18/lake.erie.plane.ap/index.html>

8. *January 17, CNN* — **Two planes collide over Florida airport.** One plane crash landed and a second managed to land safely after they collided on the final approach to Clearwater Airpark in Florida on Saturday, an airport authority spokesman said. "The two planes touched on the downwind side (of the airpark)," operations manager Gordon Wills said. "One was able to land, but the other went down." Video from the scene showed one of the small planes upside down in some trees on the edge of a parking lot for Clearwater's Long Center, a recreation facility with a gym and swimming pool just over a mile from the airpark. The forward section and wings of the single-engine Cessna plane was severely damaged. The other plane, a twin-engine Piper, was parked on the tarmac with police tape around it. It appeared to have damage on the right wingtip. **The airpark is a small general aviation facility owned by the city of Clearwater.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/US/South/01/17/planes.crash/index.html>

9. *January 17, Washington Post* — **Northwest gave U.S. data on passengers. Northwest Airlines provided information on millions of passengers for a secret U.S. government air-security project soon after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, raising more concerns among some privacy advocates about the airlines' use of confidential customer data.** Northwest said in a statement Friday, January 15, that it participated in the NASA program after the terrorist attacks to assist the government's search for technology to improve aviation security. "Northwest Airlines had a duty and an obligation to cooperate with the federal government for national security reasons," the airline said. The carrier declined to say how many passengers' records were shared with NASA from the period offered, October to December 2001. More than 10.9 million passengers traveled on Northwest flights during that time, according to the Transportation Department. NASA documents show that NASA kept Northwest's passenger name records until September 2003. Such records typically include credit card numbers, addresses and telephone numbers. NASA said it used the information to investigate whether "data mining" of the records could improve assessments of threats posed by passengers, according to the agency's written responses to questions.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A26422-2004Jan 17.html>

10. *January 16, Associated Press* — **U.S., Europe divided on Sky Marshals.** The United States and European nations failed Friday, January 15, to bridge divisions during a high-level meeting

over a U.S. proposal to use armed sky marshals on trans-Atlantic flights. Asa Hutchinson, U.S. undersecretary for border and transportation security, sought to convince European civil aviation officials that armed guards are needed to thwart terrorist attacks in planes. Although Britain and France were open to the idea, other Europeans largely stuck to their reservations. "Use of weapons on board an aircraft is always potentially dangerous because there are some very sensitive electronics on board every aircraft," said Lars Lovkvist, Finnish Air Transport Authority Director. Hutchinson said the United States was not demanding air marshals on every flight — only on "selective flights on a case by case basis" — but he disagreed with Europeans that marshals were not needed. **After the September 11 attacks, the United States expanded its force of air marshals, sharpshooters who are trained to stop hijackings. They wear civilian clothes and carry special bullets designed to kill without penetrating the metal skin of aircraft.** Pilot organizations in Britain, Spain and other countries also expressed strong reservations.

Source: <http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/89-01162004-228659.html>

11. *January 16, CNEWS Canada* — **Security costs hammer Canadian ports.** New international maritime security regulations could take the edge off the competitiveness of Canadian ports unless the federal government provides millions of dollars in subsidies, says a coalition of port operators. **Imminent changes to the Marine Transportation Security Act will cost terminals between \$500,000 and \$3 million each in security improvements, says Onkar Athwal of the Canadian Coalition for Maritime Security.** Canada has signed an international agreement requiring tighter security in ports by July 1. The measures, which Athwal said will cost more than \$100 million, include better fences, cameras, photo identification for workers and new security guards. The U.S. government last year handed out \$679 million in grants to American ports, he said. "We're looking for the Canadian government to provide funding by way of grants similar to the U.S. to offset those capital costs," he said. Added costs could particularly affect the competitiveness of a port like Halifax, which is for many shippers a port of convenience that could easily be abandoned for harbours such as New York and Boston, Athwal said. "It's economic growth and jobs in Canada that we're trying to protect," Athwal said.

Source: <http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2004/01/16/315363-cp.html>

12. *January 16, Rapid City Journal* — **China abandons high-speed train plans.** China has abandoned plans to build a high-speed magnetic-levitation railway between Beijing and Shanghai in favor of less expensive conventional trains, the government said Friday through its official media. Besides cost, "the maglev technique was excluded because it does not match the wheel-track technique used by railways in China," the report said, citing Wang Derong, vice-chairman of the China Transport Association. The scrapping of the 9-year-old maglev project _ two weeks after the country's first maglev, a short stretch in Shanghai, began regular operation _ represents a setback for the development of the technology in China, which many had seen as one of its key markets. It also appears to open the market for other alternatives on the proposed Beijing-Shanghai line. **Other options for the railway, according to state media, include styling it after the Shinkansen, Japan's high-speed bullet train, or two methods used in France: TGV and Inter-City Express. The Shanghai maglev is German-built.**

Source: <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/articles/2004/01/16/ap/HiTec h/d8044gj80.txt>

13. *January 16, Washington Post* — **Safety record probed in Maryland crash. The corporate owner of the fuel truck that crashed and exploded Tuesday, killing four motorists on Interstate 95 in Howard County, Maryland, has an accident record "worse than 96.6 percent of the carriers" examined by the federal agency that regulates the trucking industry, an agency official said.** A March 2003 review of Texas-based Petro-Chemical Transport Inc. by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration found no fault with the upkeep of its 175 tank trucks or with the performance of its drivers, said agency spokesman Andy Beck. **But Beck said officials determined that Petro-Chemical vehicles were getting into accidents with unsettling regularity. Those accidents included at least one other recent fatal crash, involving a Petro-Chemical tractor-trailer on a Utah highway in 2002, according to agency records that are available online.** The records also show that one of Petro-Chemical's sister companies, North Carolina-based Kenan Transport Inc., has an accident rating worse than 83.3 percent of the nation's trucking fleet. Kenan tank trucks have been involved in at least four wrecks in which four people were killed since 2000, the records show. One of those involved a tank truck that crashed and exploded after swerving out of control on the Florida Turnpike west of Boca Raton.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A21009-2004Jan 15.html>

14. *January 16, CNN* — **Pilot, intoxicated, flies around Philly for three hours. The pilot of the Piper Cherokee aircraft "came down on his own volition" Friday, January 16, at Pottstown Limerick Airport, where his aircraft is based, about 35 miles northwest of Philadelphia, according to the airport's manager, Mike D'Aries.** "From what they can determine, it was pretty obvious that when he landed he was pretty intoxicated," D'Aries said. The pilot, from Limerick Township, is being held by Limerick police who are awaiting blood test results to determine if he was intoxicated, D'Aries said. He will face federal charges if the blood tests indicate he was intoxicated while flying, D'Aries said. At one point, the pilot flew into the airspace of Philadelphia International Airport without clearance from the Federal Aviation Administration, according to FAA spokesman Jim Peters. The pilot faces two citations from the FAA for flying through Class B controlled airspace — airspace around a major airport — without FAA approval. The FAA is launching an investigation of the incident, and the pilot could have his license suspended or revoked.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/US/Northeast/01/16/erratic.plane/index.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

15. *January 16, DM News* — **USPS seeking emergency preparedness funds. The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has asked President Bush to include \$779 million for its emergency preparedness plan in the 2005 fiscal year federal budget he will send to Congress February 2.** The postal service last received emergency preparedness funding in the 2002 fiscal year, when it got \$762 million. The USPS said that part of \$779 million already has been spent, with the remainder to be spent in 2005. "We are requesting the funds and continuing to install the equipment necessary to protect the customers and postal employees," USPS spokesman Jim Quirk said. "If this money is not appropriated, it would have to be built into rates," said Bob McLean, executive director of the Mailers Council, though rates are not scheduled to not rise until 2006.

Source: http://www.dmnews.com/cgi-bin/artprevbot.cgi?article_id=2620_5

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Agriculture Sector

16. *January 17, Reuters* — **Taiwan reports second farm with mild bird flu. Taiwan has found a second farm infected with a mild strain of bird flu, prompting the slaughter of 35,000 chickens and stepped up testing of poultry across the island, government officials said on Saturday.** While the less virulent H5N2 strain found in two farms in central and southern Taiwan cannot harm humans, it could mutate into the more deadly H5N1 strain that has killed four people in Vietnam, they said. The infection at a farm in Chiayi country in the south comes two days after Taiwan reported an outbreak among chickens at a farm in the central country of Changhwa, which is about 62 miles from Chiayi. Officials destroyed 20,000 chicken at the Changhwa farm and have quarantined the area. **"Up to now, only two chicken farms have tested positive for cases of H5N2. No other areas have reported any cases of infection,"** said Chiang Yi-nan, director of the Bureau of Animal and Quarantine. Chiang said farms within a 0.4 square mile radius of the infected Chiayi farm had been tested.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/TP262803.htm>

17. *January 16, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **Officials from U.S., Canada, and Mexico meet. U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman, Canadian Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Bob Speller, and Mexican Secretary of Agriculture Javier Usabiaga held their first-ever joint meeting Friday. The purpose of the meeting was to address the new challenges presented by the finding of the two bovine spongiform encephelopathy (BSE) infected cows in the U.S. and Canada, and to discuss the new measures to be implemented in order to achieve a resumption in the North American trade in beef.** The Ministers agreed to enhance ongoing efforts to increase harmonization and equivalence of BSE regulations and to address the challenges of the BSE findings in North America with the goal of ensuring the continued safety of the North American food supply. It was agreed that maintaining consumer confidence in beef is fundamental to the management of the BSE issue and that it will remain a top priority in future discussions to improve the international approach to BSE. Each government agreed to designate a sub-cabinet level official to coordinate the ongoing interagency efforts toward a resumption of exports based on a harmonized framework.

Source: http://www.agprofessional.com/show_story.php?id=23144

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Food Sector

18. *January 17, Animal News Center* — **European Parliament votes to tackle bushmeat crisis.** On January 15 the European Parliament voted for a resolution on the over-hunting of wild animals for their meat, also known as the bushmeat crisis. **The illegal trade in bushmeat poses a real threat to human health, both in Africa and in Europe where large quantities of bushmeat are estimated to be illegally imported. Contact with wild meat results in an increased risk of animal-derived diseases, for example monkeypox, Ebola, and HIV.** The

European Parliament resolution calls for an European Union Bushmeat Strategy plan aimed at conserving biodiversity and protecting those species threatened by the bushmeat trade. The resolution also demands a ban on the import of products of companies which act illegally and aggravate the bushmeat problem by allowing their workers to hunt for bushmeat or use their transport facilities to transport poached bushmeat.

Source: http://www.anc.org/wildlife/wildlife_article.cfm?identifier=2004_0117_bushmeat

19. *January 16, Reuters* — **Mexico may ease U.S. beef import ban soon. Mexico will ease its ban on some U.S. beef products as soon as Washington implements new safeguards for preventing another case of mad cow disease, Mexico's agriculture secretary said on Friday.** "The Mexican border will be open to U.S. beef as soon as the U.S. implements the measures that they have offered to do and that satisfies the Mexican officials," said Javier Usabiaga, Mexico's Agriculture Secretary, at a news conference. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Undersecretary J.B. Penn said "It shouldn't be very long" before Mexico allows some U.S. beef shipments. Mexico, the second largest foreign buyer of U.S. beef, stopped allowing imports of U.S. beef and live cattle after the December 23 discovery of mad cow disease in a Holstein cow slaughtered in Washington state. The USDA has issued a series of new food safety rules in hopes the measures would reassure consumers that U.S. beef is safe. Usabiaga said the two countries will meet again on Tuesday to discuss easing the ban. **Usabiaga didn't comment on what U.S. beef products might soon be allowed.** Mexico allows imports of Canadian boneless beef cuts from cattle younger than 30 months of age, despite Canada's disclosure in May 2003 of its own case of mad cow disease.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N16352097.htm>

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Water Sector

20. *January 16, ABC News – Australia* — **New technology helps save water. Melbourne, Australia's water authorities are using new technology to prevent and find leaks. Acting Premier John Thwaites says the initiatives are expected to save nine billion liters of water between now and 2010.** He says leaks will be picked up much quicker. "We can use acoustic methods to hear where the water is leaking from pipes, track the exact location and fix it," he said. "Water authorities are also reducing pressure in the mains and using better metering systems so they can track down leaks and fix them quickly."

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/s1026902.htm>

21. *January 16, WPTZ – Champlain* — **Cold weather bursts water pipes. The extreme cold temperatures have had fire departments across Vermont responding to a lot of calls about broken water pipes.** The Burlington Fire Department said in a news release Friday that it had responded to seven cases of burst pipes in the past seven days; four involving fire sprinkler systems and three involving domestic water pipes. The Fire Department warned the problem may get worse before it gets better, because as temperatures rise, the ice blockages melt in previously unnoticed broken pipes.

Source: <http://www.thechamplainchannel.com/houseandhome/2771165/detail.html>

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Public Health Sector

22. *January 18, Associated Press* — **Two more SARS cases confirmed. China confirmed two more cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) on Saturday. The World Health Organization urged further testing to ensure the diagnosis was correct.** Previously identified as suspected patients, the new cases were a 35-year-old businessman and a 20-year-old waitress, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. The waitress had worked at a restaurant in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou that served civet cat, a regional delicacy and a suspected source of the disease. **The total number of SARS this year now stands at three.** The season's first confirmed case, a 32-year-old television producer, was released from the hospital last week.
Source: http://www.knoxnews.com/kns/world/article/0,1406,KNS_351_258_4821,00.html
23. *January 18, Reuters* — **Experts hunt bird flu in Vietnam. Experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization were hunting on Sunday for cases of humans infected by bird flu in southern Vietnam after four deaths in the north.** Officials of the UN agencies were meeting health and agriculture officials in Ho Chi Minh City, which is in the south of the country, in their search for victims, said WHO spokesman Robert Dietz. Eight northern and seven southern provinces have reported outbreaks of avian flu type H5N1 but the south has been hardest hit. Two southern provinces have seen the cull or deaths of one million chickens. **All the confirmed human flu cases have been in the north, baffling the experts.** The four confirmed bird flu deaths, three children, and one woman, occurred in three provinces near Hanoi. Vietnam has a total of 12 suspected avian flu deaths. The WHO said it had found no evidence of human-to-human transmission of the H5N1 virus. Some of the victims had come into contact with sick poultry, a WHO official said. In what could be the first cases of bird flu in humans in the south, a hospital in Kien Giang province said on Sunday a man showing symptoms similar to those seen in bird flu victims had died. A woman with similar symptoms was in critical condition.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=4153563>
24. *January 17, Washington Post* — **Anti-counterfeit steps by drugmakers sought. Congressional lawmakers asked five of the nation's largest drugmakers Friday to explain what they are doing to stop counterfeit drugs from entering the marketplace. The letters are part of a widening effort in Congress and among federal agencies to crack down on the illegal distribution of prescription drugs.** The House Energy and Commerce Committee said it was acting in light of the public health concerns. "Despite the best efforts of many companies, the counterfeit drug problem is getting worse every day," committee spokesman Ken Johnson said. "If we're going to turn the tide, clearly it will take a greater cooperation between the private sector and the federal government." Serono and Johnson & Johnson said their companies already have added tracking devices to expensive product lines that have experienced counterfeiting. Serono, Johnson & Johnson, and Lilly said they have also tightened their distribution systems.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A23639-2004Jan_16.html
25. *January 17, Associated Press* — **Flu season tests United States SARS plan. This year's early and harsh flu season has opened a door for hospitals and health agencies to doublecheck**

their readiness for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Influenza and SARS are similar, both being highly contagious viruses that spread mainly when an infected person coughs or sneezes. The precautions for preventing the spread of either disease are the same. During the peak of the flu season, Vanderbilt University Hospital was overwhelmed with people who thought they had the flu. **"If there's a silver lining in this cloud, it helped us with our SARS preparedness planning,"** said William Schaffner, head of preventive medicine. **The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says some health departments still do not have systems to efficiently control outbreaks or computer databases to track cases. Other health officials say many hospitals could be overwhelmed by flu or SARS because they don't have enough isolation rooms. Hospitals still struggle over how to handle patients who show up at clinics not designed for contagious patients.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2004/HEALTH/01/17/sprj.flu03.sars.flu.ap/index.html>

26. *January 16, CBC News* — **Sick animals signal Ebola outbreak. The harvesting of sick animals may be the source of five recent human outbreaks of the Ebola virus in Africa, researchers say. Hunters who handle meat from infected animals often introduce the virus into the human population, their study concludes.** An international team studied genetic sequences of Ebola virus from human and animal victims in west-central Africa from October 2001 to May 2003. **Human outbreaks seem to break out when people slaughter chimpanzees, gorillas, and small antelopes called duikers.** "Humans and duikers scavenging for meat probably became infected by contact with dead apes," researchers say. **Health workers could get an early warning of outbreaks by watching for increases in animal mortality,** said the study's lead author, Eric Leroy of the International Medical Research Center in Gabon. The antelope factor is a new one for Ebola experts, who've been looking for an intermediate host for the virus. They're also studying whether virus-carrying fruit bats pass on Ebola to other animals. Study co-author William Karesh of the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society said human cases of Ebola have occurred in small villages. **If infected meat reached crowded urban markets, thousands of people could die, he warned.**

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/stories/2004/01/16/ebola040116>

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *January 16, Firehouse.com* — **Group asks for federal EMS administration. A task force of EMS professionals is urging the federal government to create a United States Emergency Medical Services Administration (USEMSA) within the Department of Homeland Security, akin to but separate from the U.S. Fire Administration.** Project USEMSA leaders have received strong support from EMS organizations. Project USEMSA chairman, Assistant Chief Paramedic Donald W. Walsh, Ph.D., EMT-P of the Chicago Fire Department, said he and his colleagues began discussing the idea while teaching at the National Fire Academy in

Emmitsburg last year. Walsh said he and his colleagues began wondering why there isn't a national EMS academy and an administration specifically to look out for EMS, provide leadership and to track the industry as a whole, from fire department-based EMS to private EMS to third-party EMS. **On December 15 an unrelated federal report came out recommending a study on the state of EMS in the U.S. and the possible creation of a federal EMS administration. The report is known as the Gilmore Commission**, after former Virginia Governor James S. Gilmore III, who chaired the Congressional Advisory Panel to Assess Domestic Response Capabilities for Terrorism Involving Weapons of Mass Destruction. The panel submitted its final report to President Bush and Congress on December 15, 2003.

Source: http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?section_Id=46&id=24624

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

28. *January 16, Reuters* — Trend Micro says 2003 viruses caused \$55 billion damage. Trend Micro Inc. said on Friday, January 16, that computer virus attacks cost global businesses an estimated \$55 billion in damages in 2003, a sum that would rise this year. Companies lost roughly \$20 billion to \$30 billion in 2002 from the virus attacks, up from about \$13 billion in 2001, according to various industry estimates. "The economic and financial impact of virus attacks will continue to climb in 2004," Lionel Phang, Trend Micro's Managing Director. Spam threats and network viruses will likely become more prevalent in 2004, he said. Blended threats also will remain the standard way to attack networks, where one virus file will create four to five different activities within the system." Viruses can also gain entry into computer networks via instant messaging channels, Phang added. "Spammers are going to put viruses and worms in email attachments, so (junk email) will become more than just a nuisance," said Natasha David, an analyst with International Data Corp. **Analysts said the number of attacks between January and June 2003 exceeded 70,000, which is about twice the rate for 2002. "About 20 to 40 new and variant virus threats were reported to Trend Micro on a daily basis worldwide in 2003,"** Phang said.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=K4R53JRCZZC24CRBAEKSFFA?type=technologyNews&storyID=4138782>

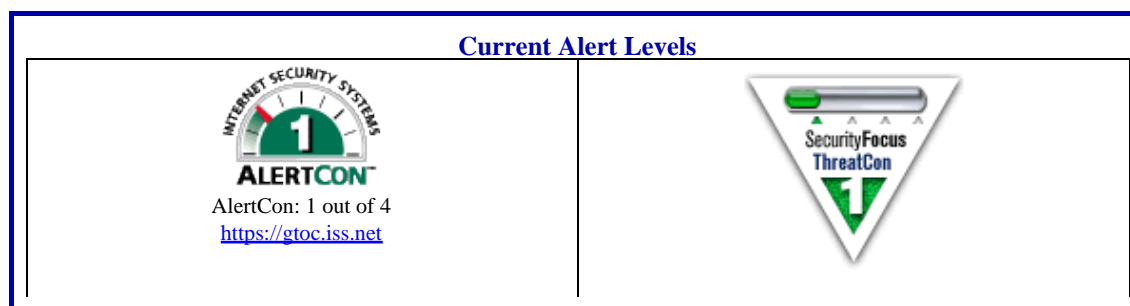
29. *January 16, ZDNet* — HP patches critical security holes in Tru64 Unix. Critical security vulnerabilities in HP's Tru64 Unix operating system were patched on Friday, January 16, after it was discovered that implementations of IPsec and SSH programs, which carry VPN and secure system command traffic, were vulnerable to attackers. The vulnerabilities both were found in vital components of the operating system and both could enable malicious users to either take control of a machine or launch a denial of service attack. SSH, a secure Telnet program, is used to securely send commands to a server, while IPsec is used to create virtual private networks to carry encrypted information over the Internet between two computers. HP has issued patches that will fix any known problems. **Only HP's Tru64 UNIX 5.1B is affected and fixes for both the IPsec software and SSH software can be found on HP's Web site:** <http://us-support3.external.hp.com/common/bin/doc.pl/sid=48545bf71719ae72bf>

Source: http://news.zdnet.co.uk/software/linuxunix/0,39020390,391191_49,00.htm

30. *January 15, eSecurityPlanet* — **Worm copies itself to network shares with weak passwords. W32/Rirc-A is a worm that spreads by copying itself to network shares protected by weak passwords at random IP addresses**, according to Sophos, which issued an alert Thursday, January 15. When first run, W32/Rirc-A copies itself to the Windows System folder and appends its pathname to the shell= line in the [Boot] section of \System.ini, so that it is run automatically each time Windows is started. On versions of Windows NT, 2000 and XP the worm also appends its pathname to the following registry entry to run itself on startup: HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon\Shell. **Each time the worm runs it tries to connect to random IP addresses on port 139. The worm attempts to logon to the Administrator account of remote computers using a list of 'weak' passwords and if the schedule service is active on the remote computer the worm schedules a new job to run the worm.** It also attempts to connect to a remote IRC server and join a specific channel, then sends status information to this channel. **More information and instructions for removing the worm can be found at:**
<http://www.sophos.com/virusinfo/analyses/w32rirc.html>
Source: <http://esecurityplanet.com/alerts/article.php/3299981>

31. *January 15, CNET News* — **Report: IP networks easy prey for cyberattackers. The increasing use of Internet Protocol (IP) technology in power stations, railroads, banks and other critical infrastructure could spell big trouble, and soon, according to analysts.** Although an actual act of cyberterrorism or cyberwarfare has never been recorded, the potential exists and is being facilitated by an increasingly connected world, according to a report released on Wednesday, January 14, by market-research firm Gartner. Cyberwarfare could be a reality by 2005, the company said. Technologies such as VoIP and the trend towards voice and data convergence give benefits cost and flexibility to businesses, but they also expose vital telecommunications networks to traditional forms of Internet attack, such as worms and viruses, according to the report. Gartner claims that, unlike traditional circuit-switched networks, VoIP networks have an inherent weakness when it comes to latency—any delay to the packets carrying the voice traffic disrupts communication. A massive denial-of-service attack could "degrade call performance by slowing voice packet arrival at a given destination" and effectively cut off voice communication, the report says. **Other weaknesses flagged include the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition interfaces used to connect a significant portion of critical infrastructure elements such as dams, railroads, electrical grids and power stations.**
Source: http://news.com.com/2100-7349-5141386.html?tag=cd_top

Internet Alert Dashboard



		Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/
Current Virus and Port Attacks		
Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: WORM_SOBIG.F Source: http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]	
Top 10 Target Ports	135 (epmap), 6129 (dameware), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 137 (netbios-ns), 901 (realsecure), 3410 (----), 445 (microsoft-ds), 80 (www), 53 (domain), 1433 (ms-sql-s) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center	

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General Sector

32. *January 16, Associated Press* — **Arrest ties Pakistan to nuke black market. This month's arrest of a South Africa-based businessman accused of smuggling nuclear bomb triggers to Pakistan offers a rare window into the worldwide black market for nuclear weapons parts.** Authorities accuse Asher Karni, 50, of being the middleman for a complex series of transactions involving dozens of the triggers. Agents arrested Karni January 2, at Denver International Airport. **The case is the latest indication that Pakistan — a key U.S. ally in the war on terrorism — is deeply involved in the nuclear weapons black market. The United States for years has restricted exports of sensitive goods to Pakistan because of its nuclear weapons program.** Officials from the United States and other governments say Pakistan also was the likely source for some of the know-how and equipment for nuclear weapons programs in Libya, North Korea and Iran. Pakistani officials say the government is not involved in any black-market nuclear deals. But Pakistan has questioned three top nuclear scientists recently based on information from the International Atomic Energy Agency. **The possible spread of nuclear technology from Pakistan is a greater worry than any attempts by Pakistan to clandestinely supply its own nuclear program, said Robert Einhorn, a former State Department arms control official.**

Source: http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=516&ncid=718&e=10&u=ap/20040116/ap_on_re_as/nuclear_smuggling_pakistan

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DHS/IAIP Products &Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assesments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Publications](#) – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

[DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive](#) – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports

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